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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/532,399

04/22/2005

Akihiro Miyashita

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04/18/2008

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EXAMINER

HSU, AMY R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2622

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/18/2008

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/532,399	Applicant(s) MIYASHITA ET AL.	
	Examiner AMY HSU	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 January 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,6 and 7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,6-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. The amended claims add the limitation of "the second liquid crystal display part has a third display area and a fourth display area, the third display area displays all or a part of images caught by the first camera, and the fourth display area displays all or a part of image caught by the second camera". Since this is newly introduced to the claims, the amended claims necessitate a new search and final rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3, 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shirakawa (US 2003/0117501) in view of Moriya (US 2001/0003707).

Regarding Claim 1, Shirakawa teaches a digital camera, comprising: a first camera provided on a first surface of a casing member (*Fig. 9 reference number 10b*, "*front camera*"); a first liquid crystal display part provided on the first surface of the casing member (*Fig. 9 reference number 62*), a second camera provided on a second

surface in the back side of the first surface of the casing member (*Fig. 9 reference number 10a*); and a control unit that controls photographing operations of the first camera and the second camera (*Fig. 8 reference number 101, 102 "controller"*); wherein the first liquid crystal display part has a first display area and a second display area, the first display area displays all or a part of images caught by the first camera, and the second display area displays all or a part of image caught by the second camera (*Paragraph 37 and Fig. 3 shows the display can have a first and second area, in this case superimposed, where each area displays an image from the first and second camera*). However, Shirakawa does not teach the second surface in the back side of the first surface of the casing member has a second lcd, and the second liquid crystal display part has a third display area and a fourth display area, the third display area displays all or a part of images caught by the first camera, and the fourth display area displays all or a part of images caught by the second camera.

Digital cameras, especially in the form of cell phones, commonly have two displays, on opposite sides of the housing. Moriya is an example of a digital camera having a display on each opposite side of the housing (*Fig. 3 and 4*).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teaching of Shirakawa, a digital camera with two cameras on either opposing side and a display that shows images from both cameras, by applying another display, one with each camera that also shows images from both cameras. It is very well known, especially as applied to cell phones, to utilize two opposing side displays for image capturing by using one display to show the image about to be

captured to the image taking person, and the opposite display to show the image about to be captured to the subject on the opposite side of the image taker. Therefore it would have been obvious to apply the well known use of two displays to the invention of Shirakawa to have one display associated with each camera, for a total of two displays, and for each of the displays to show images from both cameras.

Regarding Claim 2, Shirakawa teaches the digital camera according to claim 1, further comprising a camera selecting unit that selects a camera for photographing, wherein both the first camera and the second camera are selected by the camera selecting unit to photograph images by both the first camera and the second camera (*paragraph 9 teaches the device captures a plurality of images*). Shirakawa does not specifically teach when exactly the plurality of images is captured. However paragraph 30 teaches the two cameras are each separate fully functional cameras. It is well known to one of ordinary skill in the art that each camera could independently capture images either at the same time, as if it were two separate devices, or be selected for one or the other camera to capture images. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teaching of Shirakawa by allowing the two cameras to photograph at the same time because each camera is facing an opposite direction and the images are superimposed so it would be useful for the user to see the images about to be captured and then press the capture button to capture exactly what is seen on the screen, which would be a capture from each camera at the same time.

Regarding Claim 3, Shirakawa teaches the digital camera according to claim 1, further comprising an image synthesizing unit that synthesizes the images photographed by the first camera and the second camera to photograph the synthesized image obtained by synthesizing the images photographed by the first camera and the second camera (*Fig. 8 reference number 103, image processor, synthesizes the image photographed by the first and second camera*).

Regarding Claim 6, Shirakawa teaches the digital camera according to claim 1, further comprising an image storing unit (*Fig. 8 reference number 6*) for storing a moving image (*paragraph 2 "moving images"*) photographed by the first camera or the second camera.

Regarding Claim 7, Shirakawa teaches a portable telephone equipped with a digital camera on which the digital camera according to any one of claims 1 to 3 and 6 is mounted (*Fig. 9*).

Conclusion

1. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yasui (US 2004/0021792) teach a camera module involving two cameras facing opposite directions.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AMY HSU whose telephone number is (571)270-3012. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lin Ye can be reached on 571-272-7372. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2622

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Amy Hsu
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

ARH 4/6/08

/Tuan V Ho/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2622